

§ 320.11 Penalties.

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a(i)(3)) makes it a misdemeanor subject to a maximum fine of \$5,000, to knowingly and willfully request or obtain any record concerning an individual under false pretenses. The Act also establishes similar penalties for violations by NGA employees of the Act or regulations established thereunder.

§ 320.12 Exemptions.

(a) *Exempt systems of record.* All systems of records maintained by the NGA and its components shall be exempt from the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 552a(d) pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(1) to the extent that the system contains any information properly classified under Executive Order 12958 and that is required by Executive Order to be withheld in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. This exemption is applicable to parts of all systems of records, including those not otherwise specifically designated for exemptions herein, which contain isolated items of properly classified information.

(b) *System identifier and name:* B0210-07, Inspector General Investigative and Complaint Files.

(1) *Exemptions:* (i) Investigative material compiled for law enforcement purposes may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(2). However, if an individual is denied any right, privilege, or benefit for which he would otherwise be entitled by Federal law or for which he would otherwise be eligible, as a result of the maintenance of such information, the individual will be provided access to such information except to the extent that disclosure would reveal the identity of a confidential source.

(ii) Investigative material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for federal civilian employment, military service, federal contracts, or access to classified information may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(5), but only to the extent that such material would reveal the identity of a confidential source.

(iii) Therefore, portions of this system of records may be exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(2) and/or (k)(5) from the following subsections of 5 U.S.C.

552a(c)(3), (d), (e)(1), (e)(4)(G), (H) and (I), and (f).

(2) *Authority:* 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(2) and (k)(5).

(3) *Reasons:* (i) From subsection (c)(3) because to grant access to the accounting for each disclosure as required by the Privacy Act, including the date, nature, and purpose of each disclosure and the identity of the recipient, could alert the subject to the existence of the investigation or prosecutable interest by the NGA or other agencies. This could seriously compromise case preparation by prematurely revealing its existence and nature; compromise or interfere with witnesses or make witnesses reluctant to cooperate; and lead to suppression, alteration, or destruction of evidence.

(ii) From subsections (d) and (f) because providing access to investigative records and the right to contest the contents of those records and force changes to be made to the information contained therein would seriously interfere with and thwart the orderly and unbiased conduct of the investigation and impede case preparation. Providing access rights normally afforded under the Privacy Act would provide the subject with valuable information that would allow interference with or compromise of witnesses or render witnesses reluctant to cooperate; lead to suppression, alteration, or destruction of evidence; enable individuals to conceal their wrongdoing or mislead the course of the investigation; and result in the secreting of or other disposition of assets that would make them difficult or impossible to reach in order to satisfy any Government claim growing out of the investigation or proceeding.

(iii) From subsection (e)(1) because it is not always possible to detect the relevance or necessity of each piece of information in the early stages of an investigation. In some cases, it is only after the information is evaluated in light of other evidence that its relevance and necessity will be clear.

(iv) From subsections (e)(4)(G) and (H) because this system of records is compiled for investigative purposes and is exempt from the access provisions of subsections (d) and (f).

(v) From subsection (e)(4)(I) because to the extent that this provision is construed to require more detailed disclosure than the broad, generic information currently published in the system notice, an exemption from this provision is necessary to protect the confidentiality of sources of information and to protect privacy and physical safety of witnesses and informants. NGA will, nevertheless, continue to publish such a notice in broad generic terms, as is its current practice.

(vi) Consistent with the legislative purpose of the Privacy Act of 1974, NGA will grant access to nonexempt material in the records being maintained. Disclosure will be governed by NGA's Privacy Regulation, but will be limited to the extent that the identity of confidential sources will not be compromised; subjects of an investigation of an actual or potential criminal or civil violation will not be alerted to the investigation; the physical safety of witnesses, informants and law enforcement personnel will not be endangered; the privacy of third parties will not be violated; and that the disclosure would not otherwise impede effective law enforcement. Whenever possible, information of the above nature will be deleted from the requested documents and the balance made available. The controlling principle behind this limited access is to allow disclosures except those indicated in this paragraph. The decisions to release information from these systems will be made on a case-by-case basis.

[66 FR 52681, Oct. 17, 2001, as amended at 67 FR 55724, Aug. 30, 2002]

PART 321—DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE PRIVACY PROGRAM

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 93-579, 88 Stat 1896 (5 U.S.C. 552a).

SOURCE: 64 FR 49660, Sept. 14, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 321.1 Purpose and applicability.

(a) This part establishes rules, policies and procedures for the disclosure of personal records in the custody of the Defense Security Service (DSS) to the individual subjects, the handling of requests for amendment or correction of such records, appeal and review of DSS decisions on these matters, and the application of general and specific exemptions, under the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974. It also prescribes other policies and procedures to effect compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and DoD Directive 5400.11¹.

(b) The procedures set forth in this part do not apply to DSS personnel seeking access to records pertaining to themselves which previously have been available. DSS personnel will continue to be granted ready access to their personnel, security, and other records by making arrangements directly with the maintaining office. DSS personnel should contact the Office of Freedom of Information and Privacy, DSSHQ, for access to investigatory records pertaining to themselves or any assistance in obtaining access to other records pertaining to themselves, and may follow the procedures outlined in these rules in any case.

§ 321.2 Definitions.

(a) All terms used in this part which are defined in 5 U.S.C. 552a shall have the same meaning herein.

(b) As used in this part, the term agency means the Defense Security Service.

§ 321.3 Information and procedures for requesting notification.

(a) *General.* Any individual may request and receive notification of whether he is the subject of a record in any system of records maintained by DSS using the information and procedures described in this section.

¹Copies may be obtained via internet at <http://web7.whs.osd.mil/corres.htm>.